

40 Mayors Here Today to Begin Statewide Visit

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Torrance Herald

OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

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COUNCIL DEFERS BUDGET REQUESTS

Close Look At Demands Set Monday

Final public hearings on the proposed \$7 million city budget for 1960-61 brought out renewed efforts for improved library service and for additional city employee benefits as the council prepared to make a final decision on the budget next week. Representatives of the city's police and fire departments spoke in favor of longevity pay, and police officers spoke on behalf of employee requests for additional hazard pay for motorcycle traffic officers, and clothing allowances for city employees required to wear special uniforms.

WHILE TAKING the requests under submission, it was indicated informally that the councilmen were cool toward longevity pay, but might be in a mood to step up hazard pay for traffic officers and make some changes in present uniform allowance procedures.

Members of the city library commission, headed by Chairman W. J. Hanson, asked for expansion of libraries in Welteria and North Torrance, and construction of libraries on the civic center and in the west Torrance area.

HANSON suggested that the city raise the library tax levy to 10 cents from the proposed 6.4 cents to pay for the improvements. He indicated that such a levy would still mean that Torrance would spend only about 7½ per cent of its budget on libraries, a figure he claimed was well below the average.

Opposition to adding to the city's tax rate was expressed by Mayor Albert Isen, whose opinion is apparently shared by most of the councilmen, at least.

ISEN SUGGESTED that the council try to work out a method of obtaining the improvements without raising the levy. He also spoke sharply against a suggestion that rented quart-

ers might be found for a west Torrance library.

"I don't believe in the city spending a lot of money to fix up somebody else's building," Isen said.

All requests were taken under advisement by the council and will be considered in detail at a special budget session Monday evening.

Supervisors Note City's Fast Growth

Torrance was hailed by County Supervisor Burton W. Chace today as "the fastest growing major city in Los Angeles County during the past decade."

On Chace's motion, the Board of Supervisors ordered the preparation of a resolution commending the city and its officers for "progressive municipal administration."

Torrance has been cited for having the outstanding Chamber of Commerce in its population category in the United States by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Recently the State Department commissioned the Armed Forces Radio and Television services to film the Torrance-Konya Days celebration as the classic example of international relationships between cities.

During the past 18 months more than 16,000 new jobs have been created in Torrance by the tremendous influx of industry.

Flying Tour Of State to Begin Today

A Penny for your Thoughts

"Which phase of the city's recreation program do you favor most?"

Answering were:

Miss Judy Hoover, 22635 Kathryn Ave., student at South High:

"I like the swimming pool best. I have taken advantage of the swimming instructions they give two years now... the first time I didn't know how to swim at all, then the second time, I took it to improve my swimming. I think it's wonderful that they offer such things. The admission price is reasonable enough, but I wish it was for the whole day instead of just two hours."

Jerry Pearson, 1516 W. 224th St., Student at Harbor City Christian High:

"I like to swim, and you can't swim much at the beach so I prefer the pool and really enjoy it when it's hot in the summer... also it gives me something to do. I wish it would be open day, though, and that one admission price would cover it, instead of the way it is."

Mrs. Lucille Gallo, 1650 W. 226th St., housewife:

"I like the supervised play at the parks. It gives the kids something to do during the day when there is no school... as long as they are kept busy with their hands they are less bother at home, and get into less trouble elsewhere. If they like the arts and crafts they also learn something constructive, which never hurts anyone."

Mrs. Pauline Mathews, 1631 Cota, housewife:

"I think we enjoy the parks most during the summer months because we use them a lot for family picnics and they are so well kept up and are really beautiful. They have a lot of facilities right handy, too. We also enjoy the swimming pool for the grandchildren, go there a lot. We prefer the pool because it is closer and easier to get to."

Mrs. Mary Eason, 1827 Andree Ave., housekeeper:

"Actually there are but two that I think are wonderful: the senior citizens center and the supervised play at the parks. The adult center gives the older people someplace to go to socialize with others and keeps them active and interested. The parks are so well kept it's a joy to go there to relax."

About 40 California mayors will be feted at a luncheon here today as the Flying Farmers touch down at Torrance Municipal Airport on a statewide tour.

The mayors and the Flying Farmers will attend a luncheon at the Jump 'n Jack at noon, according to Councilman Willys Blount, chairman of today's activities.

LEADING THE visitors will be Mayor Perry Walker of Manhattan Beach, vice-president of the co-sponsoring League of California Cities. Among those attending will be Mayor Norris Poulson of Los Angeles, Torrance's mayor, Albert Isen, Mayor Wilburn E. Baker of El Segundo, and Arthur Cox of Poina.

The trip is being sponsored by the Flying Farmers to acquaint California mayors with the importance of agriculture to the economy of California, Chairman Blount reported.

THE TOUR will give the city officials a chance to talk about such things as urban area problems, water resources, industrial development, airports, and other items important to California's growth, he added.

About 200 city and Chamber of Commerce officials and others are expected at the luncheon.

OVERNIGHT stops have been scheduled at Palm Springs, Santa Rosa, and Lake Tahoe, during the four-day tour which begins today.

Altogether about 40 private planes are expected to participate and a total of 60 mayors are scheduled to make at least part of the tour.

MAYOR ISEN will join the tour here as mayors of other Southland cities are flown to Torrance for the first meeting on the tour.

From Torrance, the group will fly to San Diego, El Centro, Palm Desert today. Tomorrow, the tour will go to

Santa Barbara, Watsonville, San Francisco, and Santa Rosa. The final day will take them to Vacaville, Sacramento, Willows, Redding, and Lake Tahoe.

Sunday each mayor will be flown back to his home airport.

Harbor Freeway Bids Due

Bids for construction of the final phase of Harbor Freeway from 208th Street to Pacific Coast Highway will be advertised next August, it was disclosed yesterday by Supervisor Burton W. Chace, Chairman of the County Board's Road Committee.

According to Chace, the Highway Commission has just budgeted \$6,900,000 for construction of the missing link which is scheduled for completion by July, 1962.

"THIS final contract on the Harbor Freeway, together with other contemplated contracts on the San Diego Freeway, will complete the Harbor Freeway and provide a connection via the San Diego Freeway with the Long Beach Freeway to the east," Chace said.

Chace pointed out that a connection with Terminal Island is to be provided by construction of the new Terminal Island Bridge for which a ground breaking was conducted on May 28 of this year.

IT IS anticipated that this bridge, to be constructed through state, county, and city financing, will be opened to traffic in November of 1962 at a total construction cost of 16 million dollars.

Bids will be opened June 23 for portions of the San Diego Freeway to include the interchange with the Harbor Freeway.

(Continued on Page 16)



START ELKS LODGE... Top officers of the Torrance Lodge of the BPO Elks man a king-size shovel to begin construction of an ultramodern building here. From left are Pat Huffine, Lee Lease, Exalted Ruler Ace Littleton and Charles Marquand. The \$68,000 lodge will be located at 1820 Abalone. (Herald Photo)

Elks Break Ground for \$68,000 Lodge Building

Groundbreaking ceremonies for a new \$68,000, ultra modern Torrance Elks Lodge at 1820 Abalone, were held Sunday as area lodge officers, city officials, and members of the fraternity gathered for traditional ceremonies to launch the project.

When completed, the new lodge building will provide dining room facilities for 200; a club room to seat 300 members

which can be converted into a banquet room or dance floor; a luxurious ladies lounge, modern kitchen facilities, and a cocktail lounge.

Parking will be provided on the property for about 80 cars, and the exterior of the building will be finished with driftwood and stone, according to Ace Littleton, exalted ruler.

Helping the ruler turn the first earth for the project Sunday afternoon were other lodge officers, Charles Marquand, esteemed leading knight; Lee Lease, esteemed loyal knight; Pat Huffine, esteemed lecturing knight; Don Harding, secretary; F. W. Meyers, treasurer; and Lambert Brownlee, tiller.

"We have designed a building that will bring pride to the city as well as to the members," Littleton said.

Local Rector Feted by Parish; To Receive Trip to Holy Land

More than 300 parishioners and friends of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church filled the church patio Sunday afternoon to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Rev. Hugh R. Percy in the priesthood, climaxing the event with the announcement that the parish would send Father and Mrs. Percy on a trip to the Holy Land in 1961.

The festivities started with a buffet luncheon attended by the Rev. Mr. Percy and members of his family; the Rev. and Mrs. C. Lee Mills of Christ Church Redondo, Mayor and Mrs. Albert Isen, and an overflow crowd of friends.

A PROGRAM, based on the popular "This Is Your Life" television format, was presented after the luncheon with John Sloan, narrator of the skit reviewing salient points in the life of the local rector.

The review included his study for the priesthood and his ordination in 1935 at St. Matthew's Cathedral in Brandon, Manitoba, which was followed by assignments to the Hudson's Bay area where he spent several years in mis-

sionary work, chiefly among the Indians and Eskimos.

DURING WORLD War II, he served as chaplain with the Calgary Highlanders, taking part in the invasion of Normandy. He was returned home after being wounded, and spent 10 years at St. Paul's Church near Winnipeg, Manitoba. He came to Torrance late in 1955.

Since his assignment at St. Andrew's, the church facilities have been expanded, and plans for further expansion are now being discussed.

Three Veteran School Workers Plan Retirement

Three long-time Torrance Unified School District employees are retiring at the end of the current school year, according to Personnel Director Robert Morton.

Bidding fond adieus to fellow employees are Mrs. Joy Prime, head teacher at the Child Care Center; Albert

Clements, maintenance carpenter; and Carl Hoke, utility groundsman.

Mrs. Prime has served the district since it was founded in 1947 and also was here under the Los Angeles School District. Hoke also served since 1947, while Clements had been here since 1951.



SYMBOL OF SERVICE... The Rev. and Mrs. Hugh R. Percy prepare to cut cake during celebration commemorating Father Percy's 25th year as an Episcopal priest here Sunday at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. An overflow crowd of dignitaries, parishioners, and friends attended the function. (Herald Photo)